

IN THE MATTER OF

MAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANY	)	MAINE HAZARDOUS
WISCASSET, LINCOLN COUNTY, MAINE	)	WASTE, SEPTAGE AND
HAZARDOUS WASTE TREATMENT FACILITY	)	SOLID WASTE
ABBREVIATED LICENSE FOR TREATMENT	)	MANAGEMENT ACT
IN TANKS	)	
LICENSE #O-000159-HL-B-N	)	NEW LICENSE

Pursuant to the provisions of 38 MRSA Section 1301 et seq. and 06-096 CMR Chapter 850 through 857, Maine Hazardous Waste Management Rules (March 26, 2000), the Department of Environmental Protection has considered the application of MAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANY with its supportive data, agency review comments and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

1. APPLICATION SUMMARY

- A. Application: On October 3, 2000 Maine Yankee Atomic Power Company (hereinafter "Maine Yankee") applied for an abbreviated license for the treatment of hazardous waste in two units at its facility located south of Old Ferry Road on Bailey Point in Wiscasset, Maine.
- B. History: This is Maine Yankee's second application for an abbreviated license to treat hazardous waste. Maine Yankee holds one active license for beneficial reuse for aerosol can depressurization at its facility approved on August 7, 1996. This license is # O-000159-HL-A-N and was amended in Department correspondence dated April 8, and September 17, 1998 to increase the monthly number of cans processed from 70 cans per month to 1000 cans per month. The significant increase was due to the asbestos abatement project undertaken that summer. This increase was terminated as of December 31, 1998. This license will expire on August 7, 2001.
- C. Background: In 1997 Maine Yankee initiated a waste characterization program to assess its various waste streams. Eighteen samples of plastic sheathing on electrical cables were collected and an analysis for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were performed. Three samples (out of a total of eighteen collected)

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contained concentrations of PCBs over 50 ppm. In Maine PCB waste greater than 50 ppm is handled and regulated as hazardous waste.

The Maine Yankee facility contains many miles of insulated electrical cable of various sizes. The sizes range from approximately 10 mm to 50 mm in diameter. In some larger cables, three separately sheathed wires are located within an outer plastic jacket. The cables vary in hundreds of yards length and exist in complex assemblages of varied sizes and types. The cables were produced by a variety of manufacturers and are visually indistinguishable. Maine Yankee determined that the cables were too numerous to sample and impracticable to segregate. Maine Yankee is therefore unable to differentiate the hazardous PCB cables from the non-hazardous (or below the 50 ppm threshold). Thus all cables are being handled as potentially containing hazardous waste.

Maine Yankee will be complying with the federal PCB requirements under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), as cited under 40 CFR Part 761. Maine Yankee must comply with 40 CFR Section 761.62 for disposal requirements for PCB Bulk Product Waste out of state and 40 CFR 761.79 for applicable decontamination procedures. Maine Yankee must comply with both the federal and state regulations. If any regulation appears to conflict, the more stringent standard shall be met.

- D. Summary of Proposal: Maine Yankee was an electrical generating nuclear power plant. It is currently undergoing decommissioning and dismantlement. As part of its decommissioning, a huge number of electrical cables will be removed from the non-nuclear side of the facility. All of the cables from the nuclear side will be removed and shipped off as mixed waste (both hazardous and radioactive). Maine Yankee is proposing to reclaim and recycle the copper and aluminum from within the cables. In order to recover the metal, all of the cables will be processed in the Turbine Building in either a Nordic Industrial Products K74-1 Cable Stripper or a G96-1 Granulating Machine to separate the plastic sheathing from the metal. See **Figure B-4** for a diagram of the facility layout and location of Turbine Building.

The hazardous waste stream that will be treated is a toxic waste contaminated with Polychlorinated Byphenyls (PCBs).

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<u>Waste</u>	<u>Hazardous Characteristics</u>	<u>Hazardous Waste Code</u>
PCB	Toxic	M002

- (2) The Maine Yankee facility is a federally licensed electrical power generating nuclear power plant that operated until 1996. Security is maintained currently with guarded and fenced access into the Turbine Building and routine security checks. Temporary passes are issued to all visitors who wish to enter the plant. Visitors must be accompanied by an official escort at all times.
- (3) The treatment process entails the following steps. The cables will be segregated into two waste streams based upon the size of the cables:
  - a. Cable sheathing that is greater than 8 mm in size will be fed into the Nordic K74-1 cable stripper manufactured by Bispgardens Verkstader, AB made in Sweden. This cable stripper weighs approximately 660 pounds and is capable of cutting the insulation from the conducting metal at a rate of 115 feet per minute. It is estimated that the Cable Stripper can produce approximately 690 pounds of plastic sheathing (waste) per hour of operation based on  $0.11\text{lb/ft cable} \times 115\text{ ft/min.} \times 60\text{min/hr} = 690\text{ lb}$ . The stripper is also equipped with a hand/foot release lever for stopping the in-feed drive. The top and bottom splitting knives are adjusted to correspond to the cable size and shielded by a heavy metal housing unit. The metal is visual once the insulation is removed and can easily demonstrate whether it meets the shiny and bright standard as required under the federal standard for uncontaminated metal. Maine Yankee states that no dust will be generated. Upon completion of the cable stripping, the non-porous equipment will be decontaminated by swabbing all cutting surfaces that may have been in contact with PCB insulation with a solvent as per 40 CFR § 761.79(c)(2)(i).
  - b. Cables less than 8 mm in size will be treated within the Nordic G96-1 Granulator which is also manufactured by Bispgardens Verkstader, AB and used extensively throughout Europe for industrial applications. This equipment is a 2200 pound unit

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capable of being operated by one person. The machine is completely enclosed with no exposed moving parts and capable of shredding used cable at a rate of 30 feet per minute. In an eight hour period, up to 1800 pounds of to-be-recycled metal can be separated from the plastic insulation material. The metal will be visually inspected once per hour for each continuous hour of operation of the Granulator since the metal is less readily observable. This cable processor is capable of recovering metal from cables that range in size from 0.4mm (1/64") to 8mm (5/16").

- c. As the cables are removed from the various areas within the Turbine Building, Service Building and other non-nuclear side structures, they will first be severed and released from their cable trays before being staged near the treatment units. All of the cables will be cut into 10 to 20 foot lengths for stripping or granulating . See Figure B-5 for location of this treatment area within the Turbine Building.
- d. Both units are enclosed and contained within the Turbine Building and placed on liner material that will be later disposed of as hazardous waste and in accordance with applicable federal regulations. These activities will take place within the enclosed Turbine Building with an impervious floor. The Granulator processes the smaller cables by first cutting the insulation from the metal. The heavier metal then drops down to a lower level with the lighter plastic moving to a separate pathway whereby it is collected in a sealed plastic bag. The separated copper and aluminum metal will be shipped for recycling as scrap metal. The PCB insulating waste will be managed as hazardous wastes and in accordance with applicable federal regulations.
- e. For the thinner cables, the PCB waste stream (e.g. plastic insulation) will be contained within a plastic bag attached to the Granulator with a metal band. This bag will sit inside a rigid container for structural support in a satellite accumulation area (SAA). As the plastic insulation is moved through the system by an exhaust fan it collects and drops into the attached plastic bag

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resting inside a rigid container. Once the bag is full, it is detached from the equipment, tightly closed and hazardous waste labels attached with the proper date. The rigid satellite container will be used to relocate the bagged waste into the ninety day storage area where a large bulk roll-off container will be staged and be labeled with both hazardous waste and PCB labels. The roll-off container will be kept securely closed at all times except when hazardous waste is being placed within. Once the first bag of PCB waste is placed within the roll-off container, the same date will be added to the label on the roll-off for eventual off-site disposal. In addition, hazardous waste and PCB signage will be posted nearby and in accordance with Chapter 851 storage requirements. If any 55-gallon containers are used to store PCB wastes for 90-day storage, covers will be securely attached and be properly labeled. A daily inspection log for both the SAA and roll-off storage areas will be maintained.

f. Maine Yankee estimates it has approximately 1000 metric tons of cables needing to be processed. The PCB waste is estimated to be at 400 metric tons or forty percent of the total weight. The cable stripper and Granulator equipment will be staged on top of liners prior to any treatment and all dust will be kept to a minimum. If visible dust is identified as a problem, additional measures will need to be proposed by Maine Yankee. Maine Yankee estimates the processing time to take four to six months.

- (4) Maine Yankee will not be treating any cables received from off-site.
- (5) Maine Yankee is proposing to comply with all requirements concerning an abbreviated license closure.
- (6) Maine Yankee is proposing to comply with all PCB spill reporting requirements. No liquid filled cables will be processed in these two treatment units.
- (7) Maine Yankee intends to ship the PCB waste generated off-site within 90 days of generation.

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## 2. STATUTORY CRITERIA

The Department finds under the statutory criteria of 38 MRSA Section 1319-R that:

- A. The Department shall issue a license for a hazardous waste facility whenever the Department finds that the facility will not pollute any water of the State, contaminate the ambient air, constitute hazard to health or welfare or create a nuisance.
- B. The license must be issued under the terms and conditions as the Department prescribes and for a term not to exceed five (5) years.
- C. Issuing the license is consistent with the applicable standards, rights, and procedures of the Maine Hazardous Waste, Septage, and Solid Waste Management Act.

## 3. REGULATORY CRITERIA

The Department finds that according to Maine's Hazardous Waste Management Rules, 06-096 CMR 856 Section 11 A (11) (a-c) Treatment in Tanks, a license may be issued to the owner or operator of such a unit if:

- A. Waste is not received from off-site;
- B. The facility complies with the provision of Sections 11A(1) (a) through (k) of this Chapter including:
  - a. Maine Yankee provides its identification number.
  - b. Maine Yankee addresses unauthorized access into the treatment activity area.
  - c. Maine Yankee provides for inspections of the equipment.
  - d. Maine Yankee provides a detailed written schedule for safety and security.
  - e. This treatment process will not generate extreme heat, fire or explosions, toxic gases, flammable fumes, damage to the equipment such that human health or the environment will be threatened.
  - f. No treatment reagents are needed for this process.

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- g. This equipment is designed to be operated to prevent any release of wastes from being spilled into or on any land or water.
- h. The waste will be properly manifested and written records maintained.
- i. Maine Yankee will properly clean all hazardous waste residues prior to certifying closure of this treatment unit; and

- C. The facility complies with the tank provisions of Chapter 855, Section 9D. This requirement states that tanks must be in compliance with 40 CFR § 265.190 (a) & (b) and 265.191 through 265.200.

Maine Yankee states that it meets the exemption provided in the federal requirements as cited in 40 CFR §265.190(a) since there are no free liquids present in the cables. In addition this activity will occur within a building over an impermeable floor such that secondary containment is not required as cited in § 265.193. Maine Yankee states that the equipment is compatible with the wastes being treated and that the wastes will have no contact with any soil or water.

The Department's review finds the following:

- a. This is not an existing tank system needing its integrity assessed. This is new equipment being brought on site specifically for this activity.
- b. This is a new system, which will not be in contact with soil or water needing to be assessed for corrosivity. This unit is all aboveground. Proper handling procedures have been addressed.
- c. This system should not cause the unit to rupture, leak, corrode or otherwise fail. Spills should be minimized.
- d. Inspections will be maintained as described in 4F below.
- e. In response to a leak or spill, Maine Yankee will implement its plan as outlined in Section 3(j) & (k) of the application. In addition all necessary information will be incorporated into the Maine Yankee Spill Plan. This is described further in 4G below.
- f. Maine Yankee has provided an adequate closure plan for this unit.
- g. There are no ignitable or reactive wastes involved that need special requirements met.
- h. Maine Yankee has adequately characterized the waste stream as PCB waste needing special handling.
- i. Maine Yankee will not be accumulating large quantities of waste within these units warranting additional inspection requirements.

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The Department finds that Maine Yankee meets the requirement as cited in Chapter 856 Section 11 (A)(11)c.



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#### 4. OTHER FINDINGS

- A. The Department finds that Maine Yankee published public notice of its application to the Department on September 14, 2000 in the Times Record. Maine Yankee also published notice of an informational meeting for interested parties at its facility. No interested parties attended the informational meeting on September 26, 2000. No verbal or written inquiries were made to Maine Yankee or DEP in response to the public notice.
- B. The Department finds Maine Yankee provided proof of title, right and interest in the property in the form of a deed recorded in the Lincoln County Registry Book 651 Page 273.
- C. The Department finds that Maine Yankee has obtained EPA Identification number MED 071749329.
- D. The Department finds that Maine Yankee limits access to the Turbine Building to employees, authorized contract workers and visitors. Security officer controls access to the industrial area. The Turbine Building is located within the industrial area and is surrounded by a 12-foot high chain link fence.
- E. The Department finds that Maine Yankee will close the facility in accordance with Chapter 856, Section 11(C)(3). Closure of the facility must include notification to the Department, the removal of hazardous waste and hazardous waste residues, and certification of closure activities by Maine Yankee and an independent professional engineer. The equipment will be decontaminated by first vacuuming loose waste particles, damp wiping impacted equipment with an appropriate cleaning liquid and performing a visual inspection. At a minimum four random wipe samples will be collected to confirm the equipment has been satisfactorily cleaned of any PCB residue. The performance standards demonstrating the equipment is clean shall be in accordance with 40 CFR § 761.79.
- F. The Department finds that Maine Yankee will inspect the treatment unit and associated structures in accordance with Chapter 856, Section 11(A)(1) on a monthly basis. Any deterioration or malfunction of equipment will be noted on

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the form and remedied in a timely manner. Waste storage areas will be inspected on a daily basis. Inspection reports will be kept on file for review by DEP personnel. In addition, if either Maine Yankee, the Department or EPA New England staff determines that visible dust is a concern, than additional protective measures will need to be undertaken including monitoring for fugitive emissions. The written inspection log, schedule and reports will be maintained onsite by the Document Control office for a minimum of three years from the date of inspection.

- G. The Department finds that Maine Yankee will comply with Chapter 856, Section 11(A)(1)(j),(k) for spill reporting. No treatment reagents are needed for this activity. If any PCB wastes or releases from this treatment activity of greater than one pound are discovered, Maine Yankee shall provide verbal notification to both DEP and EPA New England within 24 hours of discovery and shall submit a written report within 14 days of the event.
- H. The Department finds that secondary containment for the cable granulator and stripper are being provided by being within a building with a concrete floor. In addition, the granulator equipment and the cable stripper will be operated on a disposal liner. The liners should be included in the inspection by the independent professional engineer prior to closure of these units.
- I. The Department finds that no laboratory analyses are proposed for the PCB waste. Maine Yankee shall collect a minimum of four wipe samples on the equipment to confirm equipment has been decontaminated in accordance with 40 CFR Section 761.79. Sampling locations shall be selected based upon visual observation and for locations of highest impact. A minimum of two wipe samples shall be collected from the concrete floor to verify that the residual PCB concentration is less than 10 ug/100 cm<sup>2</sup>. Sampling locations shall be selected based on visual observations. Chemical extraction and analysis for PCBs shall be performed using EPA Method 3550A (sonication) and EPA Method 8082.
- J. The Department finds that Maine Yankee will only treat non-liquid waste cables. If any liquid filled cables are discovered during their removal from the current location prior to stripping, those cables will be immediately segregated and handled in accordance with the applicable state and federal regulations. No processing of liquid filled cables will occur in this area of the Turbine Building or

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treatment units. In the event that liquid filled cables are found in the processing area, the process shall cease immediately and both DEP and EPA New England shall be immediately notified. A work plan addressing the decontamination of PCBs from impacted equipment and/or processing area shall be submitted to and approved by both the Department and EPA New England prior to continuing operations.

BASED on the above Findings of Fact, and subject to the Conditions listed below, the Department makes the following CONCLUSIONS:

1. Maine Yankee has met the requirements of 06-096 CMR 856, Section (11)(A)(11)(a-c) of the Rules in that:
  - A. Maine Yankee has obtained an EPA ID number for the facility.
  - B. Waste will not be received from off-site.
  - C. Maine Yankee will prevent the unauthorized entry of personnel from this treatment activity.
  - D. Maine Yankee would close the facility in accordance with Chapter 856, Section (11)(C)(3) of the Rules. Closure of the facility would include notification to the Department, the removal of hazardous waste and hazardous waste residues, and certification of closure activities by Maine Yankee and an independent professional engineer.
  - E. Maine Yankee would inspect all treatment equipment in accordance with Chapter 856, Section (11)(A)(1) including maintaining a daily log.
  - F. Maine Yankee would report spill events in accordance with Chapter 856, Section (11)(A)(j) and (k).
2. Maine Yankee has provided for public notice of its application to the Department.
3. Maine Yankee has provided proof of Title, Right and Interest in the property.

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4. The operation of Maine Yankee 's treatment unit should not threaten human health, welfare or the environment provided it is operated in accordance with Maine's Hazardous Waste Management Rules and this Order including:

- a. Maine Yankee places the cable granulator and stripper units on top of the liners prior to treatment of any hazardous waste cables.
- b. Maine Yankee shall notify the Department and EPA New England staff at least ten (10) business days prior to beginning this treatment process to provide an inspection opportunity of the operations.
- c. If Maine Yankee, the Department or EPA New England determine that visible dust generation is a human health or environmental concern, notification shall be provided to the other two entities. If Maine Yankee determines visible dust is a human health or environmental concern, Maine Yankee will cease operations immediately and provide verbal notification to both DEP and EPA New England. If the Department or EPA New England makes this determination, both verbal and written notifications will be provided to Maine Yankee. Maine Yankee shall immediately cease operations and submit for the Department and EPA New England's review and approval a plan to address reduction and monitoring of fugitive dust emissions.

5. Maine Yankee has listed the wastes to be treated as non-liquid PCB containing plastic. No other wastes are proposed to be treated in the tank system. The treatment unit complies with the exemption for the hazardous waste treatment tank design standards of Chapter 855, Section 9(D). Maine Yankee meets the other requirements as cited in Chapter 856 Section 11 A(11)c.

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the above noted application of MAINE YANKEE ATOMIC POWER COMPANY SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED CONDITIONS and all applicable standards and regulations:

1. The Standard Conditions of Approval, a copy of which is attached as **Appendix A**.
2. This license is limited to the treatment of approximately 1000 metric tons of non-liquid filled cables. The PCB waste stream is estimated to be 400 metric tons or forty percent of the total weight. The treatment units shall be staged on top of the temporary liner prior to

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any treatment and all dust will be kept to a minimum. If Maine Yankee, the Department or EPA New England determine that visible dust generation is a human health or environmental concern, Maine Yankee shall cease operations. Maine Yankee shall submit for the Department and EPA New England's review and approval a plan to address reduction and monitoring of fugitive dust emissions.

3. Maine Yankee shall inspect the treatment units and associated structures in accordance with 06-096 CMR Chapter 856, Section 11(A)(1) when waste is present in either the satellite accumulation area and/ or the ninety-day hazardous waste storage area. Monthly inspection of the stripper or granulator shall include but not be limited to maintenance, deterioration, and visible dust. Waste storage areas will be inspected on a daily basis. The inspection log shall be maintained on site for review by DEP personnel. If any PCB wastes or releases from this treatment activity of greater than one pound are discovered, Maine Yankee shall provide verbal notification to both DEP and EPA New England within 24 hours of discovery and shall submit a written report within 14 days of the event.
4. All processed PCB waste managed under this license shall be disposed at a facility licensed to receive PCB waste over 50 ppm.
5. Maine Yankee shall close the facility in accordance with Chapter 856, Section 11(C)(3). Closure of the facility shall include, but is not limited to, notification to the Department, the removal of hazardous waste and hazardous waste residues, and certification of closure activities by an independent professional engineer. Maine Yankee shall collect a minimum of four wipe samples on the equipment to confirm equipment has been decontaminated in accordance 40 CFR Section 761.79. Sampling locations shall be selected based on visual observation and locations of highest impact. A minimum of two wipe samples shall be collected from the concrete floor to verify that the residual PCB concentration is less than 10 ug/100 cm<sup>2</sup>. Sampling locations shall be selected based on visual observations. Chemical extraction and analysis for PCBs shall be performed using either EPA Method 3550A (sonication extraction) or EPA Method 3540C (soxhlet extraction) and EPA Method 8082.

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6. The term of the license is five (5) years from the date of signature, provided Maine Yankee is in compliance with the requirements of Chapter 856, Section 11 and its application.

DONE AND DATED AT AUGUSTA, MAINE THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY  
OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2001.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Martha G.Kirkpatrick, Commissioner

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR APPEAL PROCESS.

Date of initial receipt of application: 10/03/00

Date of acceptance: 10/20/00

Date filed with Board of Environmental Protection \_\_\_\_\_

This Order prepared by Joan M. Jones, Bureau of Remediation & Waste Management.

XJJ Maine Yankee Cable/ml